AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1(Currently Amended). A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length ~~targeted to a start codon region, a coding region or a stop codon region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 of SEQ ID NO: 3, or a 5' untranslated region, a start codon region, a coding region, a stop codon region, or a 3' untranslated region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 of SEQ ID NO: 10, wherein said compound~~ that specifically hybridizes ~~with one of said regions~~ to a sequence within the nucleic acid sequence spanning nucleotide 14 to 1741 of SEQ ID NO: 3, and demonstrates at least 12% inhibition of ~~inhibits~~ the expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 (ACAT) in a cell that endogenously expresses said ACAT.

2(Original). The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

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3(CANCELLED).

4(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5(Original). The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7(Original). The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9(Original). The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

12(Original). A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13(Original). The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14(Original). The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15(Currently Amended). A method of inhibiting the expression of acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 (ACAT) in cells or tissues that endogenously express said ACAT comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 is inhibited.

Claims 16-20(CANCELLED).

21(New): The compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound demonstrates at least 30% inhibition of the expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1.

22(New): The compound according to claim 1, wherein said inhibition is measured in a Northern blot assay in cells that endogenously express human acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1.

23(New): The compound according to claim 1, wherein said inhibition is measured in a real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) assay in cells that endogenously express human acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1.